From: PMUKREC --VGB0001A Date and time 23/03/88 17:14:00
To: DOXBERRY--VGB0001A Daniel Oxberry

From: PMUK Reception
Subject: Incoming telex from 8953754TOBCOM G
*** Forwarding note from VMTELEX --VGB0001A 03/23/88 17:13 ***
To: PMUKREC --VGB0001A

From:
Subject: Incoming telex from 8953754TOBCOM G

933777 PHILMO G
8953754TOBCOM G
23-MAR-88 17:09
OUR REF OTX670

FROM A D C TURNER, TOBACCO ADVISORY COUNCIL
TO R H A KNOTT, ITL
R R BOXALL, GALLAHER
G W MOORE, ROTHMANS
R DAVIES, BAT
E D OXBERRY, PHILIP MORRIS
TEXT RE: IMPERIAL COLLEGE/MORE/PERRY/TIMMINS OF 'INDEPENDENT'

:
MR MORE OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE SAW TIMMINS' STORY YESTERDAY AND OFF HIS OWN BAT CALLED THE JOURNALIST TO TELL HIM OF THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE WORK IN THE ETS AREA.
:
TIMMINS WAS INTERESTED - AND PUSHED WITH A DECEPTIVELY SIMPLE QUESTION: 'AND WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP LIKE WITH THE TAC?'
:
OUT CAME AN EXPOSITION OF THE PROBLEMS WITH THE VIDEO, THE ASSOCIATED BOOKLET, THE SAATCHI ADVERTISEMENT AND THE 'MANIPULATION BY THE TAC' TO PERSUADE THE COLLEGE TO DO THINGS THEY DIDN'T WANT TO DO'.
:
TIMMINS RANG ME WITH ALL THIS AND WAS ELATED HE HAD WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A SENSATIONAL STORY PROVING THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY'S HEAVY HANDED WAY WITH ACADEMICS ETC ETC.
:
PERRY THEN TELEPHONED TO SAY TIMMINS HAD BEEN IN TOUCH, AND BY ALL ACCOUNTS I THINK TIMMINS SCREWED OUT OF THE PROFESSOR MUCH THAT I WISH HADN'T BEEN SAID. PERRY THINKS MORE HAS BEEN INEXCUSABLY INDISCREET, BUT LET'S SEE WHAT IS ATTRIBUTED TO PERRY.
:
I GAVE WHAT I THOUGHT WAS THE BEST POSSIBLE RESPONSE - TAC HAD BEEN CONSIDERING VARIOUS OPTIONS RELATING TO DISSEMINATING THE PERRY WORK, BUT THAT, YES, THE COLLEGE HAD INDEED RATHER BACKED OFF, FEARING ITS CLOSE ASSOCIATION MIGHT BE MISINTERPRETED. POSSIBLY THE COLLEGE HAD POLITICAL REASONING BUT OF COURSE WHATEVER IT SAID NOW WAS ITS OWN PREROGATIVE. WHAT COUNTED WAS THE QUALITY OF THE RESEARCH AND WE FELT THAT SHOULD BE THE PRIME CONSIDERATION ETC ETC.
:
I FEEL WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO BE EXCEPTIONALLY CRASS AND DAMAGING SINCE HERE WE WERE, HOPING THE PERRY WORK WOULD BENEFIT US, AND BECAUSE OF UNNECESSARY, TACTLESS AND NAIVE HANDLING AT THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE END, WE FIND THE VENTURE EMERGING AS A MAJOR DISBENEFIT IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS TERMS

END.

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